



EVERY TUESDAY

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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THE BIRD MAN GETS UP WITH THE LARK

How Ludwig Koch Makes His Records

Most of our readers have heard Dr Ludwig Koch's delightful broadcasts of birdsong; he has guided millions into little-charted realms of enchanting melody. This famous man, who fled from the Nazis in 1936 and has made his home in England, has now told a C N correspondent something of his lifework.

WHEN Ludwig Koch was eight his parents gave him a birthday present of one of Edison's phonographs — and shaped the whole course of his life. Already he was a musician, playing his own small violin, and later he was to become well-known as a singer; but that phonograph became his passion, and wherever he went he would collect the voices of his friends and record them on a cylinder. Many years later, in 1926, he became probably the first man in the world to go out with a mobile recording apparatus to take down the songs of birds in their natural surroundings.

Infinite Patience

It is difficult to realise all the difficulties that beset the path of one who would record the many lovely voices of spring—the long hours of watching, locating the exact spot where the bird sings at dawn, the infinite patience to get the microphone inches away from the songster, the care that no trains or aeroplanes will be heard. Years go by on such a work. Some birds utter their calls on the wing, and to get a recording of the green woodpecker's laughing, yaffling note, it must just laugh in a fraction of a second while passing the microphone. It took Dr Koch eight years to get this! Moreover, the recording gear is bulky and heavy, sometimes weighing from 300 to 400 lbs, though called portable.

Dr Koch has made records of about 80 birds, most of them

British birds breeding here. For migratory birds he has to go to the countries where they breed. In June of last year he visited the Channel Islands and managed to record some very rarely-heard birds, such as the guillemot, razorbill, and puffin, whose voices even the fishermen told him they had never heard. The birds were perhaps as delighted as Dr Koch, for although they had never received human visitors before, they were not at all shy.

Sometimes, indeed, the birds are not shy enough, and then danger is added to difficulty.

Dr Koch spoke of his adventure when recording the "mute" swan at Abbotsbury. "At three o'clock one morning in June," he said, "when the reeds are very high, I went out alone, and in the dim light saw something moving on the ground. I was just about to look closer when a very big bird flew in my face. It was a greater black-backed gull, and she had taken the cygnet, which I rescued, many miles away. It all happened so quickly that it was not until I returned to headquarters at about 5 a.m. I found I was bleeding near my eye."

The Giraffe's Voice

Dr Koch has made the largest collection of birdsongs in the world; but he has also recorded the calls of wild animals. He discovered that the giraffe, which was considered to be mute, makes a terrific noise; and he made a record of the okapi in Regent's Park Zoo after this animal had not been heard for eleven years. Night-time is the best time for the recording of wild animals' cries.

Now known the world over for his special way of recording the sounds of Nature, Ludwig Koch is a welcome guest in many lands. Before the war he was invited to Australia and South Africa; this year he has been invited to Spain, specially to watch and record the Great Bustard, which has been extinct here for 100 years though still on the list of British Birds. He once spent a pleasant year as guest of the King of the Belgians at the palace at Laeken, where the King's mother, Queen Elizabeth, was a keen bird-watcher.

There, in the extensive woods and gardens of the palace, Ludwig Koch made a series of very fine recordings of Continental birds.

Our own Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret have welcomed Dr Koch to Windsor.

Continued in next column

GIRLS AND BOYS, COME OUT TO PLAY!



This informal game in Kensington Gardens may not have been good netball, but it was good fun for the boys and girls who were playing.

The Duck-Bill With 2000 Teeth

GIANTS WHICH DOMINATED THE EARTH

IN a sandpit at New Jersey, USA, fossil bones of a strange prehistoric animal called Hadrosaurus or duck-billed dinosaur, have been recently found by the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. The remains (leg bones, parts of the pelvis, back bones, and 200 other bony fragments) were like those of the first Hadrosaurus found, not far from there, just 90 years ago.

The Hadrosaurus was not one of the dinosaurs of the prime, when, 90 million years ago, the Diplodocus, the 60-foot Brontosaurus, the Atlantosaurus, twice that length, and the Stegosaurus dominated the world, especially in America; but the Hadrosaurus was no mean creature, for it has been estimated that he stood 15 feet high and measured 30 feet from the tip of his bill to the end of his tail—and he had teeth. The teeth had served some of his

ancestors very well in those far-off years when the giants, like the Diplodocus, were pacifists, asking only to eat the plants of the marshes, and to avoid the new coming race of fleet carnivorous brutes that sought to sink their teeth into the flesh of the ancient aristocracy.

Yet its teeth served the Hadrosaurus well, for it had an immense number of them, some 2000 in its duck-like bill, all designed, so scientists say, purely for feeding purposes; for these teeth were ill adapted for entering on a quarrel. Fighting was not a thing the Hadrosaurus took any interest in. He was clumsy, and unless he could trip up a foe and roll over him, his chances were small. Possibly he sought for out-of-the-way places where he could feed on the herbage of swamps or streams in peace and comfort.

"YE ICE AND SNOW."

ARE there to be any more cold snaps this spring like that which was sprung on us with such violence in the third week of February?

Yes, there should be another about the middle of April—April 11 to 14 according to old Alexander Buchan, who drew up his table of these cold periods 80 years ago. Our confidence in his forecast was shaken by the arrival of the February snap a week late. It should have begun on February 7 and, moreover, should have lasted from Saturday to Tuesday only.

But Buchan, whose forecasts were framed on observation of winds in Scotland, and were made largely from Ben Nevis, where he had an important share in establishing the Observatory, was a cautious weather prophet;

and though the prescribed cold snaps were six in number, he was careful to say that all six seldom appeared to date in one year. So it was little to be wondered at that the first one of the year "missed the bus," so to speak.

The April one is more regular and another in May is the most punctual of all. Of it the weather saws of every country in Europe take note. In England it is called the "blackthorn winter"; in Germany the "three Ice Men"; and over all Northern Europe, the "Ice Saints." Saint Mamertus, Saint Pancras, and Saint Servatius are identified with the cold May Days. They were blessedly missing from last year, and so did not ruin the apple blossom—or the apple crop.

SOOT AND SNOW



A study in black and white from Switzerland, where the chimney-sweep wears a top-hat as a sign of his trade.

FREEDOM TO STATE THE WHOLE TRUTH

WE hear much nowadays about what is called a "free press," and about the difficulties of its news gatherers and others in getting real "freedom of information." A group of experts of many nations has been studying these subjects recently to prepare the ground for an important United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information to be held at Geneva this month.

If suddenly all newspapers and other journals ceased to appear we should doubtless feel engulfed by something as near darkness as we could imagine. The desire to obtain information about things, at home and abroad is insatiable in both young and old and is probably as old as Man himself. The obtaining and publishing of information is therefore the principal task of the vast newspaper industry which has become such a powerful instrument in shaping human desires, tastes, and dislikes.

A Boon and a Danger

But, like every man-made tool, the Press can at the same time be a blessing and a danger. It is a boon as it fulfils a nation's desire to obtain information. Yet it has been proved to be capable of being a terrible danger to world peace, and to humanity, if it fails to fulfil the principal duty demanded of every faithful witness—to give the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

No one should think that to obtain the truth is easy. When it has to do with international relations it may sometimes be very difficult. Reasons for this may be the reporter's lack of knowledge of the country he is assigned to, or of its language, or his prejudice against that country. Other reasons may be difficulties put in the journalist's path by the Government of a given country in obtaining the information, in confirming it, or even in transmitting it. In short, there are many obstacles to the flow of information from one country to another.

So important for maintaining

COWS LIKE CAKE

Cows do not eat only grass and hay and roots. If they are to be strong and healthy and produce rich milk they must also have cattle cake. Most of our cattle cake has been imported, and we have had to pay for it in precious dollars, but now the Government are asking farmers to grow a considerable amount of linseed so that more cattle cake can be produced in Britain.

Linseed grows like barley; it is harvested in the ordinary way and threshed. Every part of the plant is useful; the chaff is good for feeding to animals, the straw is valuable for the manufacture of paper, and the seed gives oil when crushed in mills.

Linseed oil is very valuable to us: it is used for making paint, varnish, linoleum, and printing ink, all of which are badly needed just now. When the oil has been crushed out, the remainder is pressed into linseed cake, and a proportion of this is sold back to the farmer who brought it in, and he feeds it to his cattle.

Linseed growing will be something new to many of our farmers, but it is hoped that it will prove a profitable crop, so that farmers will be encouraged to grow even more of it next year and thus make a vitally important contribution to national economy.

peace and friendship between the various nations of the world is this matter that the United Nations have taken upon themselves the task of paving the way towards real freedom of information and of the Press.

For 15 days this month 12 men, from as many different countries, have been concentrating every effort to devise a formula capable of international application which will preserve for men and women everywhere the freest possible flow of information and ideas, but will at the same time safeguard them from the excesses of prejudice and propaganda.

A Declaration which they have drafted consists of only one paragraph and states clearly the fundamental right of all to freedom of thought and expression in all its forms. No attempt has been made to qualify this freedom; there is no mention of limitations or controls to ensure that this freedom is not abused.

The Enemies

It is only in the Conference of the United Nations itself that the experts will propose various measures to prevent the greatest dangers facing the Press today. In order of importance they list the State and private monopoly of the Press, wicked professional conduct of journalists, and the unlimited airing of sectional hates and prejudices as the worst enemies of a real freedom of thought and its expression.

It is because of this clear-cut statement that so many people in the world look forward expectantly to the great debate on the freedom of information in Geneva later this month.

Eire's New Prime Minister

MR JOHN ALOYSIUS COSTELLO, Eire's new Prime Minister, is 57, and a barrister by profession. He was a member of Mr Cosgrave's Government before Mr de Valera took the helm.

This keen, alert Irishman is by no means a stranger in international circles, for he was Ireland's delegate five times to the League of Nations. He represented the Irish Free State at Imperial Conferences in London; and also he helped to draft the Statute of Westminster.

FRIEND OF ALL COUNTRY-LOVERS

SIR LAWRENCE CHUBB, who has passed on at 75, was born in Australia; as a student in London he came under the notice of that great lady Miss Octavia Hill. In 1895 he became the first secretary of the National Trust.

In the course of his long and distinguished career, Sir Lawrence was secretary of the Smoke Abatement Society, of the Commons, Open Spaces, and Footpaths Preservation Society, of the National Playing Fields Association, and of the Ramblers' Association. He was a tireless worker for all such causes, and he earned the gratitude of everyone who loves our countryside.

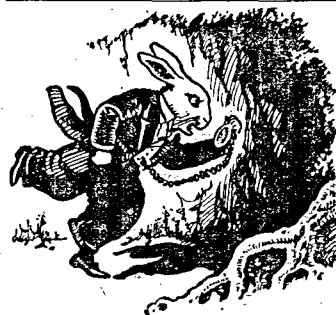
Argument in Antarctica

ARGENTINA and Chile have been disputing the British right to possess certain islands and lands in the Antarctic, and their troops have landed on snow-covered islands in the South Shetlands and on Graham Land, which are Dependencies of the British colony of the Falkland Islands.

The Falklands themselves, which lie farther north in a temperate region, have been claimed by Argentina for over a century. The Argentine authorities refuse to recognise the stamps on letters from the Falklands, and persons in Argentina receiving such letters have to pay surcharge.

The Falklands consist of over 100 small islands, the two largest being East Falkland and West Falkland. The colony, founded in 1833, has a population of about 2400, mostly people of Scottish descent who are sometimes called "Kelpers." Their homeland is rather a dreary place of extensive peat bogs and no trees. Its climate is wet and windy, and fine days are so rare that they are called "pet days." Sheep-farming is the chief occupation of these lonely British folk.

Britain has offered to put the question of the disputed lands in the Antarctic—the Dependencies of the Falklands—before the International Court at The Hague. Argentina and Chile have rejected this offer, but Argentina has suggested some form of international conference.



Excuse me, but I'm in rather a hurry! I'm the White Rabbit of Alice in Wonderland; you know, and I shall be seeing you on page 6 next week.

STEAM VETERANS

Two of the most famous of our long-distance trains complete a century of service this year—the Irish Mail, running from Euston to Holyhead, and the Flying Scotsman, with its non-stop run from King's Cross to Edinburgh, just over 392 miles, still the world's record for an unbroken journey.

Both of these trains began their career in 1848. In its early days the Irish Mail, the fastest train on the old London and North Western, was such a model of punctuality that the details of its daily running were reported every 24 hours to the secretary of the company. Yet, like many another train, it had a sort of bottleneck to negotiate.

The Government's jetty at Holyhead, where passengers quitted the train for the Dublin steamer, was in those days so fragile that they dared not trust it to bear the great weight of the company's express engines. So at Holyhead the monsters were uncoupled and shunted, whereupon a little light engine modestly crept up and was attached to the train and drew it to the side of the steamship.

WORLD NEWS REEL

RETURNING WARRIOR. The aircraft-carrier Warrior, lent to Canada in 1946 to enable the Royal Canadian Navy to start an air service, is to return to the Royal Navy early this month. The aircraft-carrier Magnificent is to take its place with the Canadian Navy.

The Wright brothers' first aeroplane, which is to be returned to the U.S. from the Science Museum, will be placed in the Smithsonian Museum at Washington.

Carrara, famous for its marble since Roman times, is to send £400,000 worth of marble to Britain.

PRECIOUS PAGES. Harvard University has given the Bodleian Library, Oxford, two leaves which were missing from the Bodleian copy of Doctrina Christiana, by L. de Valdiva. Only one other copy is known to exist. The book contains a grammar and vocabulary of the extinct language, Milcayac, once spoken in a part of Argentina.

Britain and Norway have signed a Cultural Convention to develop cultural relationships between the two countries.

HOME NEWS REEL

EXCURSIONS. British railways announce that for day outings for young people under 18, the single fare will be charged for a double journey, and half fare for those under 16 years. This is third-class only and the party must consist of a minimum of eight.

The Road Fund accounts for the year ended March 31, 1947, show that £245,000 was spent on road-safety advertising, and £36,000 on the new Highway Code. Nearly £75,000 was paid to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

An annual open competition for model aeroplanes is to be called the Queen's Cup, by permission of the Queen.

REAL MEAL. A Guildford Rhode Island Red hen has laid an egg weighing eight ounces.

In Richmond Park, Surrey, an Army Convalescent Centre is being converted into a camp for competitors in the Olympic Games. The camp will hold 1500 competitors and officials and 200 domestic staff. The cost of conversion is £35,000.

All German prisoners of war in the Southern Command will have gone home by the end of May except those in hospital and 1100 who have volunteered to remain here as farm workers.

HIGH NOTE. Buzzers have been installed at a Sunderland shipyard to scare away thousands

The will of Louis XIV, in his own handwriting, is to be given to the French national archives as a legacy from Dr Lucien Graux, who died in a German internment camp during the war.

BUSY NEEDLES. United States women last year bought 100,000,000 paper patterns, against 40,000,000 in 1939.

Last year 13,596 immigrants entered Southern Rhodesia.

Malaya's output of canned pineapples was 100,000 cases in 1947, compared with 2,750,000 in 1938.

RECORD. A new world record for the 200 metres breast-stroke has been set up by the American swimmer Joe Verdeur. His time was 2 minutes 32 seconds.

It is expected that 40,000 tons of potatoes from Jersey will be imported into England in June. The Food Ministry has agreed to buy the island's entire crop.

The Belgian House of Representatives has passed a Bill giving women the vote.

Denmark sent 100,000,000 eggs to Britain in a period of six weeks not long ago.

of starlings endangering men moving about on stages 50 feet or more above ground. So high is their pitch they are inaudible to human ears.

An exhibition of cigarette cards of Britain and over 20 overseas countries, the first ever held, was staged recently at Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Special performances of Mozart's Magic Flute are being given at Covent Garden on March 4, 5, and 9, for children from London Secondary schools. Over 5300 children will see the opera.

WRAC AND WRAF. The new title of the ATS is to be the Women's Royal Army Corps, and of the WAAF, the Women's Royal Air Force.

Fifty volunteers from the children's cinema club at Tolworth, Surrey, are to help invalids and old people by running errands for them.

Visitors to Kew Gardens last year numbered 1,620,960.

SEE HOW THEY RUN. Wilfred Clarke of Werneth, near Oldham, bought three white mice eight years ago. Now he has 4000.

The St Ives Society of Artists is to start a fund to raise £6000 to save the artists' colony at St. Ives, Cornwall. The money would be used to buy studios to be let only to genuine artists.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

firm to mark his 50 years of service.

From many parts of Britain 57 King's Scouts came to London recently to receive Royal Certificates from the Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan. They slept aboard the RRS Discovery on the Thames.

FOR OLD SCOUTS. A nationwide drive is to be launched in June to enrol all ex-Scouts in an organisation to be known as "The B-P Guild of Old Scouts."

The ship's bell from the old troopship Nevada, which in 1935 took the British contingent to the International Rover Moot in Sweden, has been presented to the Boy Scouts Association and will be kept on view in B-P's room at Imperial Headquarters.

PRINCESS AS C-in-C. Princess Margaret has become Commandant-in-Chief of the St John Ambulance Brigade Cadets. This young branch of the Venerable Order of St John came into being in 1923 and today has over 50,000 members in Great Britain, and at least 10,000 in the Empire.

Boys of the Scout Group at Houghton in Huntingdonshire have acted in a six-reel silent film produced by their Scoutmaster, the Revd John D. Ward. The film, which lasts 1½ hours, is a story of Scouts versus a gang of hooligans who eventually become enthusiastic Scouts.

PASSING IT ON. Glasgow Battalion of the Boys Brigade has received a gift of £3000 from Mr Harry Yates of Pollockshields. The money had been presented to Mr Yates by his

The Avocet Returns

FROM Norfolk comes good news for bird lovers. It is that the avocet has returned to the county, and has just established its first breeding colony since expulsion some 125 years ago. The new home is being kept a close secret lest any harm comes to these most striking of British wading birds.

In the first quarter of last century avocets bred in Norfolk and Suffolk. Their last known home was at Salthouse on the North Norfolk coast. There the villagers made puddings of their eggs; and the birds themselves were killed for the sake of their



feathers, which were used in making artificial flies for fishing. A hundred years ago avocets bred at the mouth of the River Trent.

Since those days the bird has been a rare visitor to East Anglia; but one fine evening in May, 1905 Mr W. A. Dutt, author of many books about East Anglia, lay in his punt on Breydon Water, near Great Yarmouth, when he saw no fewer than ten pricking with their long beaks in the mud flats. Later, as the tide rose and lifted them off their feet, they swam on the undulating ripples in line like ducks.

It is to be hoped that now this very handsome bird, immaculate in its black and white, has come back to breed in this country it will be allowed to settle down in peace.

World Friendship

AN essay competition is being organised for young people all over the world on the subject of "Christ and World Friendship." Juniors, born between December 31, 1930, and January 1, 1935, are asked to write between 1000 and 2000 words on "What does the Bible say about World Friendship?"; and seniors, born between December 31, 1926, and January 1, 1931, on "As a young Christian, what concrete action should you take for world peace today?"

The prizes include a travel scholarship of the value of 1000 Swiss francs. Entries must be received by April 30, 1948, and particulars are obtainable in this country from the Revd Denis E. Taylor, Youth Department, British Council of Churches, 56 Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

HELPING HANDS

THE villagers of Weaverham, Cheshire, have made a splendid gesture of practical sympathy. Having watched their District Nurse cycle out on the country roads in all kinds of wintry weather on her daily rounds, they organised sales of work and concerts in order to help her. In two years they have raised sufficient money to buy her a car and build a garage for it.

THIS KIND WORLD

A SALARY cheque for £10 10s 7d was recently returned by a relieving teacher, Miss G. F. I. Jurd, to the Auckland Education Board in New Zealand, with a request that the amount be given to a fund which aims at providing food for starving children of Europe.

"This must be unique" was the comment of the chairman of the Board, in expressing appreciation of her action. It was decided to send the money to the Mayor's fund for the aid of distressed people in Europe.

A New Air Transport

THE R.A.F.'s new standard long-range transport plane is the four-engined 7000 h.p. Handley Page Hastings, which is the biggest and fastest transport plane built in Britain. It has accommodation for 50 troops, or for guns and lorries up to a weight of seven and a half tons. As a civilian air freighter it can carry a five-ton payload at 297 m.p.h. for 2000 miles.

Early this month one of these planes will make a 26,000-mile demonstration and test flight to Australia via Malta, Egypt, Pakistan, India, and the Dutch East Indies.

BOY ACTORS VISIT NORWAY

A NOTABLE honour has been bestowed on the young actors of the School Dramatic Society of the County Grammar School for Boys, Woking, Surrey, who next week are performing *The Merchant of Venice* in their School Hall; they have been invited by the Royal Norwegian Embassy to go to Norway during the Easter holidays to present the same play.

They have chosen *The Merchant of Venice* because it is the play most Norwegian students read for their Matriculation examination. The Woking boys will produce the play at Bergen and Oslo before audiences of Norwegian students and schoolboys and girls.

"The Times" in Miniature

A MICRO-FILM reproduction of every copy of *The Times* newspaper from its first issue in 1785 to the end of 1945 is now ready for sale to libraries, learned societies, and so on.

All the actual copies of *The Times* since 1785 would fill a large space, but the micro-film record, which is in rolls of 35 mm film, can be fitted into a few small bookshelves. The films show each page reduced by 17 diameters and can be read by means of special magnifying equipment.

Altogether there are 914 rolls of film, divided into blocks of so many years, the first block covering 1785 to 1812. The cost of the complete set is £1550, and the blocks are £100 each.

THE CHINA BOX

CHINA is a long way from North London, but the pupils of a North London school, Copenhagen Street L.C.C. School, are making great efforts to help Chinese orphans. Every Monday morning young Terry Neighbour, aged six, lives up to his name and goes round the classrooms with a collecting-box which the children call the China Box. In this way they have contributed £17.

In every classroom of this school there is an artistic poster supplied by the British United Aid to China Fund.

Stamp News

THE Indian Post Office Department has decided to issue two special stamps in memory of Mahatma Gandhi. They will be available soon.

TURKEY has issued stamps in honour of the Railway Congress. The design, common to all values, shows an Express Train speeding over a view of the Golden Horn at Constantinople.

THE new stamps issued to commemorate the new Chinese Constitution which came into effect on December 25, 1947, show the National Assembly building and the book in which the constitution is written.

THE ten designs of the special "Rebuilding" set to be issued by Austria portray the reconstruction of various industries, docks, workers' houses, and so on, and a view of Parliament House in Vienna.

AUSTRALIA has issued two new definitive stamps—a 1s 3d stamp depicting a Hereford Bull, and a 2s stamp with the aboriginal Crocodile.



Fitness is Fun

New recruits enjoy an interlude between classes at the Army Physical Development Centre at Chester.

No Youth Limit

THERE is no age limit in the Olympic Games. Provided the competitor is an amateur in the strictest sense of the word, and has reached the required standard to justify selection, there is nothing to prevent the youngest boy or girl from winning an Olympic title.

When Sonja Henie, the famous figure skater and film star, competed in the 1924 Games she was only 12. In 1936, at Berlin, the youngest competitor was the eleven-year-old Miss I. Soerenson, of Denmark, who challenged the world's greatest women swimmers and was third in the 200 metres breast-stroke final. This year, at the Olympic Winter Games in St. Moritz, the youngest competitor was little Maria Antonia Falcao de Vasconcelos, the Portuguese figure skater. Maria is eight!

Britain will be represented this summer in the Olympic Games by some of the youngest of the world's competitors, and among the swimmers may be Terry Miller, a 15-year-old London boy who has already won numerous junior championships. Terry, however, is no "little boy"; he stands six feet four inches and weighs nearly 14 stone!

THE ROYAL SCOT

AT ten o'clock on the morning of February 16, 1948, The Royal Scot pulled out of Euston Station on her express journey to Glasgow, but slightly different in appearance. After a lapse of some years she was again wearing her proud name boards. It was a notable occasion for another reason. The journey marked the centenary of the first through train journey from Euston to Glasgow.

Setting an Example

AT the beginning of February eleven Christian Churches in Czechoslovakia launched an appeal for world peace. The Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches were included, as well as several Protestant Churches, and it is said to be the greatest united Christian effort in the country for 300 years.

The meeting at which the appeal was made was attended by many members of the Czech Government and other public men and women. The Churches asked their own country to put its house in order and to set a good example by seeing that its international actions were in accord with Christian principles.

The Unspoiled Coasts

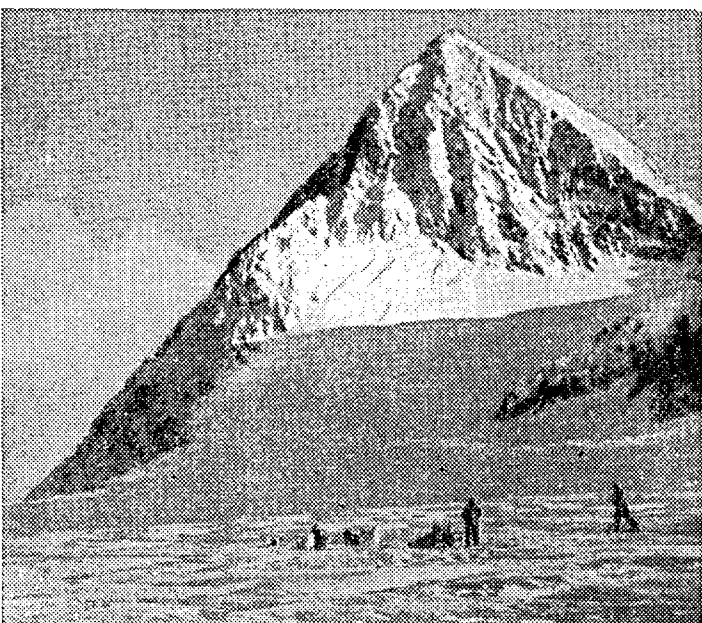
THE news that the strip of Cumberland coast between Ravenglass and Millom is to be added to the proposed national park of the Lake District is good news. The most wild and primitive coast which is marked out as a national park, however, is the Pembrokeshire coast. It has a wonderful mixture of natural beauty and bird life, so far still unspoiled by too much contact with human life.

The land near the coast, too, is rich in prehistoric remains, and the Prescelly Mountains region is still one of the least-visited in the British Isles. But it is the narrow coastal strip which gives Pembrokeshire its fame and right to be protected. The Atlantic seal breeds all round the rocky coasts of Pembrokeshire in the caves and little bays which stretch from Tenby round St

David's Head to beyond Fishguard. The secluded islands of the coast, like Grassholm, afford safe breeding-places to interesting species of birds.

Between Cardigan and Newport there is an eight-mile stretch of coast almost completely cliff-bound, unvisited and almost unknown. Its pebble beaches, caves, steep cliffs, and coves can only be visited by boat; but a national park might well provide a cliff path for ramblers. Sea-birds of all kinds and ravens, kestrels, and buzzards find nesting-places along Pembrokeshire's rocky shores. There are no big towns to draw multitudes of visitors, while the remoteness of the area only attracts those who love quietness and beauty.

Truly, such unspoiled parts of Britain's coast must at all costs be safeguarded.



The Lone White South

A party, pulled by dog team, laying store depots for surveying parties near Pyramid Peak on bleak Graham Land, one of the Falkland Islands Dependencies in Antarctica. See page 2



Getting to the Root of It

These three CN readers are the Humphrey triplets of Walberton in Sussex, and the picture was taken when they were digging out the roots of a tree in preparation for the planting of potatoes.

Sixty Years of Riding on Air

THE first boy to ride on pneumatic tyres was the nine-year-old son of a Belfast veterinary surgeon; and this year marks the diamond jubilee of the day when he first blew up the tyres of his tricycle.

Young John Dunlop had found the granite setts of the city and the many tramlines a formidable obstacle both to comfort and speed on his new tricycle; moreover, he confided to his father that he wanted to beat all his schoolfellows when they raced in the local park. So, in the intervals between attending sick animals, his father began to think out a more efficient method of absorbing the shocks than the solid rubber tyres which were then used.

After many experiments he produced a circular rubber tube which could be inflated. This he mounted on a circular piece of wood, tacking a piece of linen round the rubber to protect it and fasten it to the wooden "wheel."

When he rolled this new wheel and one of the old solid-tyred wheels of the tricycle down the cobbled stones of a courtyard, the inflated tyre showed considerably more liveliness. So he made two more wheels with wooden rims, the canvas pocket

containing the rubber tube now being protected with outer rubber strips, and all stuck to the rim.

The very first trial of these new wheels on John's tricycle—in February 1888—proved the experiment to be a great success; and before many months had passed, John Boyd Dunlop took out a patent for the new invention. He was quite unaware that his invention was really a re-discovery. R. W. Thomas had, in 1845, patented a form of pneumatic tyre which he had fitted to brougham carriages.

By the end of 1888 new bicycles were appearing with the novel tyres, and early in 1889 the captain of an Irish cycling club, using one of these pneumatic-tyred machines, defeated a number of well-known racing cyclists who were still relying upon solid tyres. From that time onwards the solid tyre was doomed.

But John Dunlop little guessed when he was fitting those first "air tubes" to his son's tricycle, that his invention would one day be used to provide quiet, comfortable travel for millions of motor-car passengers, or absorb the shock when the landing-wheels of huge air-liners touch the runway.

PINEAPPLES AND WINE

ON her 103rd birthday, not long ago, Mrs Mary Robinson of Southampton received a parcel from America containing, among other things, some tins of pineapple she had specially asked for. This was a healthier sort of present than that given to another centenarian who died when Mrs Robinson was a little girl of three.

The Times records how that other centenarian, Mr John Bull, was given a bottle of wine on his 100th birthday. The old gentleman was a stockbroker's clerk in London, and when he was still so employed at the age of 93, he one day accidentally left behind him in an office at the Bank of England a large number of bank notes. He searched everywhere for them, then anxiously returned to the Bank to report his loss. To his joy he found the notes safe. He begged the official to say nothing of what had occurred "lest his

employers should think his faculties were failing."

The official promised and added that on Mr Bull's 100th birthday he would give him the finest bottle of wine in his cellar. The official forgot his promise, but, seven years later, sturdy old John Bull—as bold as one would expect the bearer of such a name to be—strode into the Bank and asked for his present, which was given to him.

WELL DONE

CHILDREN at the Nields Council School, Huddersfield, have a grand record in the National Savings Campaign. One of the boys, 15-year-old Stanley Kenyon, has collected £1440, and another, Peter Lacey, aged 12, has collected more than £600. The total savings raised by the school's group since it was started in 1940 is more than £10,000.

March 6, 1948

CHOOSING THE BEST BOOKS

ONE of the problems of librarians is how to get people to read the books they ought to read, but seldom do. The Cambridge borough librarian, however, has thought of a way. He picked out recently 22 classics (including Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*) and displayed them on a shelf boldly labelled: "Unpopular Books." Within two hours they had all been borrowed.

Individual ideas of what are the "best books" are bound to differ. The owner of a house in Chelsea once put this intriguing sign outside: The House of the Nine Books. The books, which in his opinion ought to be in every home, were: The Bible, Plato's Republic, Homer, Horace, The Arabian Nights, Dante's Divine Comedy, Don Quixote, Shakespeare, and Grimm's Fairy Tales. But many people would not agree with this list.

When the late Mr C. Lewis Hind, a graceful essayist and book critic, organised a Ten Best Books competition some years ago 4000 people sent entries. The idea was that the books should be suitable for a young man—thoughtful, imaginative, eager—on reaching his twenty-first birthday. The first prize of £25 went to a Somerset reader whose list comprised: Gospel of St John, St Paul's Epistles, The Imitation of Christ by St Thomas à Kempis, Confessions of St Augustine, Ruskin's *Sesame and Lilies*, Shakespeare's *Tempest* and Henry V, Kipling's *Poems*, Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*, and Maeterlinck's *Life of the Bee*.

Fun 200 Years Ago

TWO large paintings which, about 200 years ago, were displayed in Vauxhall Gardens, London's old playground which was closed in 1859, have been acquired by the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, and are now on view there.

One of the pictures is called *The Humorous Diversion of Sliding on the Ice*, and shows four boys enjoying themselves on the ice. The other, *The Milkmaid's Garland*, shows three milkmaids dancing.

The pictures were painted by Francis Hayman, who was once Gainsborough's teacher.

YESTERDAY & TODAY



Chelsea Pensioner

With the proud bearing of old soldiers the pensioners of famous Chelsea Hospital make a colourful sight in their scarlet parade uniforms and three-cornered hats.

The Editor's Table

DEMOCRACY ON TRIAL

IN spite of divisions the British people believe in democratic ways—that is a conviction which Mr Churchill has voiced, and one which he shares with the great majority of his fellow-countrymen. That belief in democratic ways, however, is now to be tested in the realm of economic affairs, where hard facts and figures have to be reckoned with rather than fine words.

The stern fact is that *Britain is not paying her way*. She is in debt to the tune of many millions on each year's working, and every one of her citizens has to bear some share of responsibility for this—responsibility for the condition of a land where the balance of trade is so heavily on the wrong side.

THERE is too much money in our land and too few goods which the people desire to buy. Inflation is the danger which follows and democracy's test in these circumstances is restraint. To put off buying and go on saving should be the guiding principle for Britain now, a plain duty as well as an ideal for every inhabitant of our islands.

Britain's warfare of recovery has reached a critical stage, as critical as when death was raining from the skies. Our democracy is being tested in a new way. In the cold, harsh world of finance and economics there is another victory to be won. It is a victory of self-control and hard work. We must limit our eagerness to have more money in our pockets to spend, and at the same time work harder on making goods to sell to other nations.

THE world is watching to see whether our great tradition of intelligent democracy will achieve this victory without State compulsion, and the answer lies in the small personal actions of every citizen—what every citizen buys, what he spends, what he saves, how hard he works. Britain can give a lead to the world once again by her people showing that they can tackle the hard task and triumph over all their manifold difficulties *without compulsion*. In this country Democracy is on trial!

The Right Road

THE great high-road of human welfare lies along the old highway of steadfast well-doing; and they who are the most persistent, and work in the truest spirit will invariably be the most successful; success treads on the heels of every right effort. *Samuel Smiles*

THE POOR MAN

IT is not the man who has too little, but the man who craves more, that is poor. *Seneca*

Mothering Sunday

MARCH 7, the fourth Sunday in Lent, is Mothering Sunday, the day on which "above all other, every child should dine with its mother," as the old rhyme has it.

Time-honoured customs are associated with this day. For instance, it was long the custom for young people, away in service or bound apprentice, to return home on this Sunday bringing with them gifts of cakes for their parents.

Simmel cakes were made, and in some parts are still made, to celebrate the occasion, and Robert Herrick, the 17th-century parson-poet archly wrote:

*I'll to thee a Simmel bring
'Gainst thou goes a-mothering
So that when she blesseth thee,
Half that blessing thou'll give me.*

In medieval times it was customary to visit the mother church on that day and make offerings at the high altar, and this would seem to be the origin of Mothering Sunday.

SS FRIENDSHIP

A RUSSIAN ship has been unloading 8000 tons of maize at the London docks, forerunner of many more to come loaded with grain from Russia to Britain.

The captain of the ship said he was glad to come—a friendly remark which might be expected from a man of the sea. But his ship and her cargo are symbols, we hope, of a growing friendship between the two peoples; to begin trading is a good way of starting happier relations. In exchange for the grain we shall let Russia have railway equipment, and such exchanges of cargoes, founded on the real needs of the people, may well lead the way to better understanding.

JUST AN IDEA

As the Chinese proverb says, Faith is as necessary to a man as wheels to a cart.

Under the Ec



PETER PUCK
WANTS TO KNOW

If airmen read
fly-papers

THERE is just enough cloth to go round, says a tailor. Whom?

A MAN is anxious to get up concerts for the man in the street. Why not for the man in the concert hall?

A COOK thinks that not even fishbones need be wasted. Fish find them useful.

SOON we shall have to pay to breathe, grumbles a correspondent. And draw our breath instead of a cheque.

HAT manufacturers complain that there is a falling off in their trade. Ought to make the hats to fit better.

NEW ZEALANDERS ALL

THE New Zealand Parliament recently passed an Act changing the name of the Native Department to the Maori Department; and the Dominion's busy Prime Minister, Mr Peter Fraser, who spent his youth in a village in Ross-shire, is now to be known as Minister of Maori Affairs instead of Native Minister.

Maoris fought bravely alongside New Zealanders of British descent in two World Wars. They like to be called Maoris, and do not like the term "native," which can sometimes be used in a derogatory sense. The change of name reflects the pride of white New Zealanders for their Maori fellow-citizens.

March Weather Lore

A WET March has long been regarded as a misfortune; hence the proverbs, A wet March makes a sad harvest, and A dry and cold March never begs its bread. There is also an old idea that the weather at the end of the month is invariably the exact opposite of that at the beginning; hence the oft-quoted March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb, and the Scots version, March comes in with an adder's head and goes out with a peacock's tail.

The last three days of March were long styled The Borrowing Days, and were said to have been a loan from April to March. An old Northern Ireland tale relates that March, having a spite against an old woman, wished to kill her cow, and failing to do so in his own month borrowed three days of April to enable him to complete the task. In Scotland the story varies a little, the grudge being against three pigs. Sir Walter Scott mentions in a note to The Heart of Midlothian that the last three days of March are called the borrowing days, for as they are remarked to be unusually stormy it is feigned that March had borrowed them from April to extend the sphere of his rougher sway.

Editor's Table

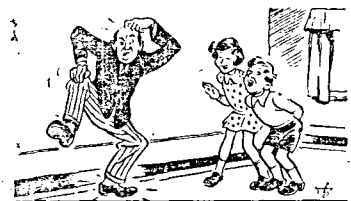
A NEW film is said to strike a popular note. A pound one?

A GARDENER writes on *How to Succeed With Potatoes*. He wants to eye to eye.

A RURAL District Council had a heated discussion on housing. Saved fuel.

A LADY says a certain comedian makes her cry with laughter. Not dry humour.

A CRITIC says that a modern poet's work is realistic and gets somewhere. Sounds like tram lines.



A MAN sometimes has to put his foot down. What does he do with the other one?

THINGS SAID

IT is not by fear and threats of counter-measures and so forth that the world can be won over to decency and kindness, but by charity.

Lord Hankey

THE Universities count for more today in national life than they have ever done. Humble birth and limited resources are no longer an obstacle to entry. They have become thoroughly democratic institutions.

Sir John Anderson, M P

BESIDE the other great nations Britain is a pygmy; in co-operation with the Commonwealth and Empire she is their equal.

Lord Bruce

THE wheel of history cannot be made to turn backwards or to halt. It rotates inexorably.

Mr Vishinsky

A "Rum" Business

DURING 1947 the record quantity of 8,170,817 proof gallons of rum were imported into Britain, which was five times the amount imported in 1938.

How strange that while many people are striving to set up good records in human achievement, others should seem determined to set up a record in human folly. It is true that the phenomenal amount of rum imported was due partly to the shortage of other spirits. But Britain would be a better and happier country if the rum merchants had decided to make a record by pouring 8,170,817 gallons of rum down the drains instead of using it to damage men's bodies and brains.

HOME IS BEST

STAY, stay at home, my heart, and rest;
Home-keeping hearts are happiest,
For those that wander they know not where
Are full of trouble and full of care;
To stay at home is best.

Weary and homesick and distressed,
They wander east, they wander west,
And are baffled and beaten and blown about
By the winds of the wilderness of doubt;
To stay at home is best.

Then stay at home, my heart, and rest;
The bird is safest in its nest;
O'er all that flutter their wings and fly
A hawk is hovering in the sky;
To stay at home is best.

Longfellow

How Virtues Increase

THE shortest and surest way to live with Honour in the world, is to be in reality what we would appear to be, and if we observe we shall find that all human virtues increase and strengthen themselves by the practice and experience of them.

Socrates

A BOY'S CLOTHES LONG AGO

IF we can spare a moment this week from allotting our sparse clothing coupons the following details of the clothing needs—and costs—for a schoolboy 300 years ago may awaken a sympathetic echo in our harassed minds.

An old diary of the 1640's kept by the Revd Thomas Larkham, a parson in Devon, contains entries of "money laid out and due to me for his board and schooling" of a boy named Peter who was evidently a pupil.

Like many modern boys Peter was hard on his shoes, for twice during the quarter he had "a paire of new showes," the first pair costing 1s 8d and the second 2s, and twice his "showes" had to be mended at a cost of twopence. He was rough on stockings too, for Mr Larkham had to pay ninepence for "footing and peeching" his stockings. A new suit at the tailor's cost 12s 6d, but Peter was a button-shedder and twopence had to be paid for "buttoning his doublet." His quarter's board came to £2, and for teaching him the Vicar charged the modest sum of ten shillings.



New Ambassador

Sir Oliver Franks, the new British Ambassador to the United States, with his daughter.

From Trawler to Table

BRITAIN'S first "quick-freeze" trawler, the 1500-ton Fairfree, has begun sailing from the Port of Leith after an experimental voyage in the North Sea.

Converted from a minesweeper, Fairfree is our largest trawler, and she will be able to remain at sea for long periods, for, owing to her quick-freeze plant, catches will remain fresh. Keeping fish on ice for surface freshness is old, but the new plant will freeze the fish throughout and, as no ice crystals will form in the cells of the fish, the flesh will retain its texture. The fish will be filleted before being frozen.

Conversion of the ship cost £100,000, and her crew of 45 have cabins and showers, a breakaway from ordinary trawlers. Fairfree will operate in Norwegian waters at present.

Schoolmaster of Science

ONE of the many adornments of the town of Bruges is a bronze statue of Simon Stevin, who was born there in 1548, the exact date, like that of his death in 1620, being unknown. Though his name is comparatively little known in this country he is honoured as one of the greatest of the scientific men of the Netherlands.

Simon Stevin was born in a great time, for it was then that Holland was fighting for faith and freedom against the power of Spain. He had his share in that fight, for he became Quartermaster General of the Dutch army under Prince Maurice of Orange, son of William the Silent. Stevin was the friend and the adviser of Prince Maurice on fortification and military engineering, mastering that science with the ease that his training in the other sciences had given him.

To all sciences he brought, as another great man said of him, the same independence of thought, and an extreme lack of respect for authority. But he brought something else besides—a creative originality. Long before he became Quartermaster to a frugal Dutch Army, he had studied Algebra and Arithmetic, and on Arithmetic had conferred the gift, unknown till then, of showing how vulgar fractions could be converted into decimals. Young readers of the C N who have never heard of Stevin know well how it is done, but it was then a novelty to the higher mathematicians.

Such efforts were the by-products of his restless scientific genius which led him to revive the science of Statics, or Mechanics. The pages of his books are covered with the same

diagrams of levers and fulcrums and pulleys that are in the schoolbooks of today. From Statics he went on to Hydrostatics.

Stevin absorbed Geometry on the way, and went on to explore the realm of Astronomy. Nothing came amiss to him. In the Museum at Haarlem there is a picture in which he sits among Haarlem notables in a kind of big wagon fitted with sails to carry it like a sledge over the ice by the motive power of the wind. The occasion is an Ice Festival, in which a lady clasping a bouquet of Haarlem tulips sits enthroned on high as the Spirit of the Festival.

To his age and time he was an encyclopedia of the sciences, a creator and a teacher. He was more than that, he was a pioneer who helped to pave the way, to prepare the soil, for the great flowering of science in the 17th century, when Isaac Newton was born on the day that Galileo died, when the Royal Society was founded, and astronomers and mathematicians came to England from the Netherlands and Spain and France to learn what new thing had been done.

Simon Stevin was a link in the chain that binds all Science together, old and new, so that what he was and what he did is now a heritage of all the world.

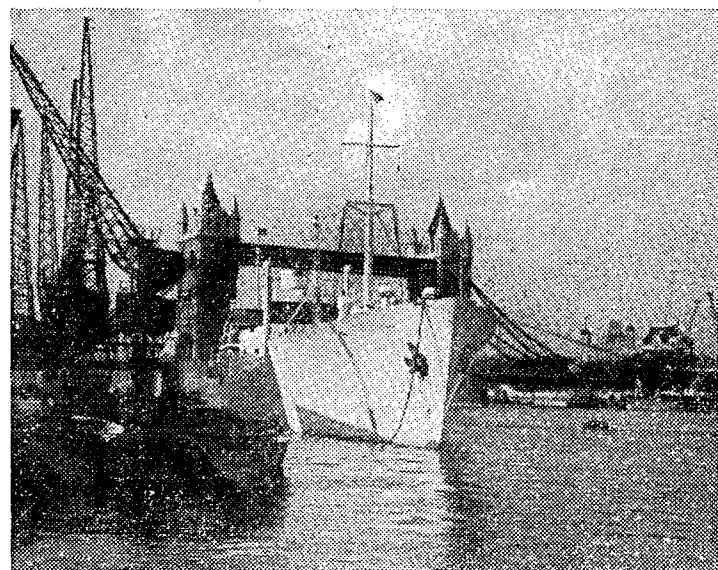
A ROYAL FISH

A STURGEON weighing 90 lbs and measuring 6 feet 9 inches has been landed at Looe, in Cornwall, and sent to Buckingham Palace as a gift for the King. This is in accordance with a 600-year-old law, which made the sturgeon a royal fish, and decreed that all caught should go to the King's table. Really big sturgeon are seldom found about our coasts, however, though the Looe catch is small compared with the specimen of 735 lbs taken in the North Sea in 1909.

Should a sturgeon be caught in the part of the Thames within the jurisdiction of the Lord Mayor of London it may be

claimed by him, but so rarely are they caught that he is seldom able to exercise his rights.

The species of sturgeon caught in the Danube and the Volga is the most noteworthy, for from its roe caviare is made, a hundred-pounder yielding about 40 lbs of caviare. In Russia, sturgeon-fishing is a government monopoly, though the work is carried out by men whose families have been in the business for generations. It is dangerous work in winter, for the men pitch their tents on the frozen waters of the Volga delta, where it meets the Caspian Sea, and fish through holes made in the ice, which sometimes gives way.



THIS ENGLAND

A ship unloads in the shadow of Tower Bridge, London

A CALL FOR COUSIN JACKS

Cornishmen Across the Seas

A CALL has gone forth to young Cornishmen to follow the trail blazed by their pioneering ancestors to the goldfields of South Africa. Mr E. J. Bolitho, who is of their own kith and kin, is home from Johannesburg, hoping to recruit several hundred men for training as miners on the Rand.

"Cousin Jacks," as Cornish miners are called, have played a notable part in the history of gold mining in South Africa. In the late sixties, bullock carts were jolting them from Cape Town to the newly-discovered goldfields at Kimberley. Then came the discovery of gold on the Rand, and Cornish miners were at Johannesburg when that great city was just a couple of tin shacks and a few tents. Near its centre was a spot known as Cousin Jack's Corner, and there on Saturday nights all the Cornish folk in the district forgathered to talk and sing.

Impulsive Travellers

Strange as it may seem, at that time Cornishmen thought twice of crossing the Tamar, and a journey to London was regarded as a great undertaking. Yet they made nothing of sailing to South Africa, the Gold Coast, Nigeria, America, or New Zealand, often on the spur of the moment! A story is still told of a Mousehole man who said to his wife at breakfast: "I think I'll go to America this afternoon." Away he went, taking only an overcoat with him. He lived in every state before returning home again several years later.

The exodus began during last century when the importing of cheaply-worked metals from abroad led to scores of Cornish mines being closed down. Cornishmen, faced with unemployment and hunger, then crossed the seas to every country of the Old World and the New.

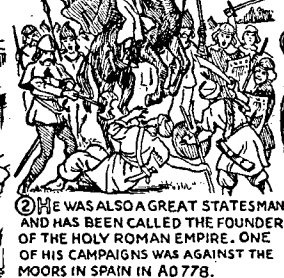
The pioneers of that great Cornish dispersal and those who followed earned for themselves a reputation second to none in the mining world. That is why Cousin Jacks are wanted for the Rand today.

WHO WAS HE?

ALTHOUGH ONE OF THE GREATEST OF FRANCE'S SOLDIER-KINGS, HE ENCOURAGED PEOPLE TO BE CHRISTIANS AND TO STUDY. HE EVEN HAD PUPILS OF HIS OWN.



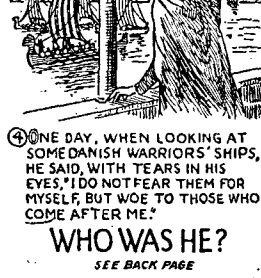
HE WAS ALSO A GREAT STATESMAN, AND HAS BEEN CALLED THE FOUNDER OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE. ONE OF HIS CAMPAIGNS WAS AGAINST THE MOORS IN SPAIN IN AD 778.



HE ONCE RESCUED THE POPE FROM HIS ENEMIES, AND SO ON CHRISTMAS DAY AD 800 HE WAS CROWNED IN ST PETER'S, ROME, BY POPE LEO III, WHO CALLED HIM CAROLUS AUGUSTUS.



ONE DAY, WHEN LOOKING AT SOME DANISH WARRIORS' SHIPS, HE SAID, WITH TEARS IN HIS EYES, 'I DO NOT FEAR THEM FOR MYSELF, BUT WOE TO THOSE WHO COME AFTER ME.'



WHO WAS HE?

SEE BACK PAGE

Thomas Bray's Ideas Live On

JUST 250 years ago, on March 8, 1698, a London clergyman, Thomas Bray, called together a group of friends to start a society "to promote Christian knowledge." On Monday next, March 8, the Lord Mayor of London will entertain a large company in the Mansion House to celebrate the long and honourable years of Thomas Bray's society—the SPCK.

Thomas Bray believed that "the growth of vice" 250 years ago was due to "gross ignorance of the principles of the Christian religion." So he and his friends set themselves first of all to establish schools for children, which was the beginning of regular day school education for British children. By 1741 there were 2000 schools at work; and by 1811, when the SPCK schools were handed over to the

National Society, over a million children were receiving instruction in them.

The SPCK also turned its attention to supplying Bibles and Prayer Books and religious tracts, and on one occasion King George III gave it £500 to distribute literature to the Army and Navy. From those early beginnings the SPCK has grown into a large modern publishing house issuing many thousands of religious books each year and maintaining 22 bookshops in various parts of the British Isles and 17 in countries of the Empire. All the profits of its publishing go to providing grants for church work at home and abroad.

During its 250 years the SPCK has provided nearly two million pounds for Anglican bishoprics abroad, and it helps

churches abroad to build church buildings, schools, and colleges. Over 600 students each year in various parts of the British Empire are provided with scholarships, and the SPCK is the only Anglican society which helps medical students to become missionary doctors. It spends £6000 a year on this most useful service. The Society pays for chaplains to serve on ocean liners and in ports overseas. It also maintains St Katherine's College, London, where 200 women are being trained as day school teachers. And lately it has made two films showing the work and purpose of the Church of England.

This last idea would have particularly pleased Thomas Bray, who was always ready for new ways in which to communicate Christian truth.

A NEW NAME BUT AN OLD CUSTOM

SHORTAGE of supplies occasioned by war has always produced a black market.

Today we call our black marketeers "Spivs"; during the First World War they were called Profiteers; during the Napoleonic wars these grasping scoundrels were known as Forestallers and Regraters. They bought necessities cheaply in secret, created an artificial shortage, or aggravated one already existing, by holding up their purchases until they could demand exorbitant prices.

During those earlier wars we ourselves as a nation were black marketeers on a scale unmatched.

Napoleon had forbidden the European nations to trade with us, but we in order to avert bankruptcy and starvation, had to trade with those nations. The story of the ingenuity and of the audacity and cold courage with which gigantic black marketeering enterprises embracing a whole continent were carried out under the nose of the tyrant is more thrilling than many a sensational film or novel.

At home scarcity led to our "Spivs" of that era doing a roaring secret trade in the hares, turkeys, pheasants, geese, poultry, and other stock that our rural areas had for sale. The bulk

of such stock did not reach the proper channels of trade, but passed into the black market and came to town at night in coaches, taking the place of human passengers.

In an issue of The Times of that period there was told the amusing adventure of a man who went by night to a London coaching hotel to meet a coach from Kent. Getting the driver of the coach into the darkened gateway of the hotel, he bought what he was assured was a magnificent hare. On reaching home he found that he had drawn, not a magnificent hare, but a great old badger!

ON THE DAY OF ST DAVID

Legends of a Holy Man of Wales

WHEN a Welshman wears a leek on St David's Day, March 1, he is really commemorating the mythical occasion when St David advised his countrymen to take this as their battle-guerron in a fight against the invading Saxons.

Shakespeare, however, in Henry V describes rather differently how the leek first became the Welsh National Emblem. That famous Welshman, Fluellen, at the Battle of Crecy in 1346, says: "... if Your Majesty is remembered of it, the Welshmen did good service in a garden where leeks did grow; wearing leeks in their Monmouth caps, which Your Majesty knows to this hour is an honourable badge of the service."

Many legends surround the memory of St David. It is said that, as a child, an angel was in constant attendance on him; while, later in life, a dove sat on his shoulder all the time he was preaching; that is how he is often represented in art. And upon another occasion a hill suddenly rose out of the plain, so that he could use it as an enormous pulpit.

Life of Devotion

All his life St David served God with unflinching devotion, so that it was said of him, "He was a doctrine to all, a guide to the religious, a life to the poor, a support to orphans, a protection to widows, a father to the fatherless, a rule to monks, and a model to teachers."

His fame extended beyond the Welsh border, for, until the Reformation, some English churches used a special St David's Day Collect. And as late as the reign of William of Orange we read: "... the King ... wore leek in honour of the Ancient Britons, the same being presented to him by the sergeant-porter ... the courtiers in imitation of His Majesty wore leeks also."

St David became Primate of Wales, and, according to legend, he lived to a ripe old age and died towards the end of the sixth century.

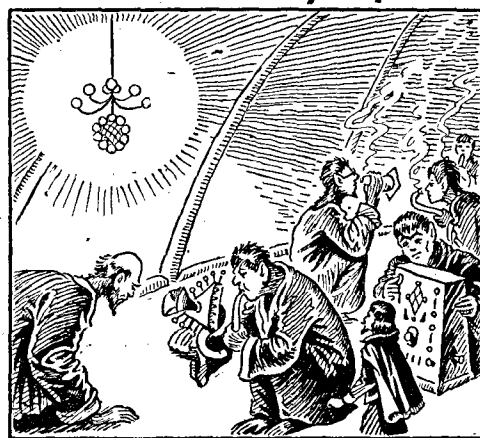
Final Instalment of Cyrano de Bergerac's Fantastic Story of a Trip to the Moon



Our Voyager made a friend who persuaded the Moon King to set him free if he declared publicly that the Moon was a real world and the Earth nothing but a satellite. Dressed in splendid robes he was taken to the centre of the city to make his declaration. He was surprised to learn that the beautiful robes were really a garb of shame.



His friend took him to a feast. There were lovely smells of food but nothing to eat. His friend explained that the Lunar people lived only on food-smells which their cooks carefully bottled. After sniffing at the various bottles, the Voyager found that his hunger was appeased.



Then an old Moon-man came in and his son rebuked him for being late. The Voyager's friend explained that Lunar parents have to obey their children, as young men are considered fitter to rule than the old. Next, the Voyager was given a Lunar book. This was a wonderful box which spoke by uttering musical sounds when a button on it was turned!



The Voyager's friend had explained that he was really a sun-spirit, who, after living on Earth as a woodland elf, had changed himself into a Moon-man. He offered to take the Voyager home and, lifting him in his arms, carried him across space and dropped him on a hill near Rome.

A Picture Version of Lewis Carroll's immortal story, Alice in Wonderland, begins next week

The Children's Newspaper, March 6, 1948

THE TWO MOONS OF MARS

By the C.N. Astronomer

THE planet Mars, now in the southern sky in the evening, continues to provide the greatest interest, although Venus in the south-west is much the brightest and most beautiful. It will be seen that Mars has moved apparently much nearer to Saturn, and is a little way to the left.

As Mars is now receding from us his brilliance is perceptibly diminishing, whereas Venus is growing in radiance as she approaches. Her distance is now reduced to 90 million miles, while that of Mars has increased from 63 million miles on February 17 to 68 million miles. Moreover, as seen through a telescope, Venus appears much larger than Mars and with a diameter nearly half as wide again, but, whereas Mars presents a circular disc, only half of Venus is seen illuminated.

Thus we may visualise these two worlds, but seen telescopically Mars provides much more detail. His rotation once in 24 days 37 minutes and 22 seconds produces a constant change of Martian detail; his Polar snows, at present seen in



The proportional distances of the two moons

the north, together with occasional patches of cloud areas, add to the changes. Moreover, as it is now spring on Mars and will soon be summer, possessors of powerful telescopes may perceive gradual changes of tint over certain known areas, from brownish to greenish; these are possibly due to growing vegetation.

Mars has another wonderful fund of interest in possessing two most remarkable moons. These are named Deimos, meaning Terror; and Phobos, meaning Flight, so named because of its great speed in revolving round Mars, which it does in 7 hours 39 minutes. Fancy having a moon going round the Earth three times a day, and at a distance only about 3700 miles above us! In addition, there is Deimos providing more leisurely entertainment, by taking 30 hours and 18 minutes to go round Mars, at about 12,500 miles above the planet's surface.

It is estimated that Phobos is only about ten miles in diameter, but owing to its nearness to the surface of Mars it would appear about one-third the diameter of our Full Moon. Deimos is estimated to be only about five miles in diameter, and, being so much farther away, would appear more like Venus does to us. These two moons would be frequently passing each other, Deimos being eclipsed from time to time; and, as seen from Mars, Phobos would appear to rise in the west, this being due to the unique circumstance that Phobos revolves faster than Mars rotates.

Most strange is the circumstance that, though these satellites were not discovered until 1877 by Professor Hall at Washington, yet Dean Swift, who wrote Gulliver's Travels, stated in 1726, when writing about Laputa, that Mars possessed two satellites. He said also that they were so singularly near to Mars that they travelled quickly, and, most wonderful of all, he said that one moon travelled faster than Mars rotates! G.F.M.

Australia's Vast Empty Region

FOR the first time in its history, Australia's back-of-beyond region, the Northern Territory, has its own Legislative Council, and recently the Council held its first meeting at Darwin, the capital of the Territory.

This vast tropical area of Australia is even today very much in the pioneering stage, for although it is more than five times the size of Great Britain it has a white population of only about 5270 people. There are also about 15,200 Aborigines, some working for the white men, but a large number still wandering through the jungles and forests and across parched plains, living the Stone Age life of their sires.

Probably the first European to set foot in this northern wilderness was the Dutchman Jan Cartensz, who in 1623 landed from his ship the Arnhem, which gave its name to Arnhem Land, the coastal part of the Territory. It was not for over 200 years that the first British settlement was made here. This was a military post established in 1824 at Fort Dundas, but later abandoned.

Hostile Natives

Hard indeed were the conditions under which the soldiers and convicts lived in this unexplored tropical land 100 years ago. The Aborigines were often hostile, and individual Britishers were sometimes speared to death when they ventured merely to go for a walk, unarmed, some distance from their settlement.

Conditions at another early settlement, Port Essington, on the extreme north of the Coburg Peninsula in Arnhem Land, were described in 1848 by Thomas Huxley, afterwards the famous Victorian scientist, who visited it as Assistant Surgeon of HMS Rattlesnake. He wrote of it:

"Everyone is dissatisfied. The unhealthiness of the place, so often denied, has shown itself in no unequivocal manner. It is the most useless, miserable, ill-managed hole in Her Majesty's dominions. It is insufferably hot, the temperature of the water alongside the ship being from 83 to 90 degrees. Added to this, the Commandant is a litigious old fool, always at war with his officers and endeavouring to make the place as much of a hell morally as it is physically."

Non-Stop Party

AMONG things to be seen at the 25th Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia, London, which opens on Tuesday this week, is a collection of clocks in The Pageant of the Hours. Here are clocks that measure time by dripping water and by burning oil, historic clocks and watches, a clock made in 1780 which sets little animals running and makes twisted glass waterfalls "pour."

Our very young readers will be delighted with the Hall of Young People. Here trained nurses and other kindly folk act as hostesses at a continuous children's party at which there are games, and wheeled toys to ride.

Another section, called The Nation and the Child, shows what the modern State does for a child from birth until after leaving school.

The Exhibition is open every weekday to March 25, from 9.30 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. Admission is 2s 9d for grown-ups and 1s 9d for children.

Port Essington, too, was abandoned in 1849. Today the ruins of those early settlements lie silent in the jungle together with the gravestones of men, women, and even children who died there.

Largely in ruins, too—but for a very different reason—is the capital, Darwin; but these are proud ruins, for Darwin was heavily bombed by the Japanese in the Second World War. It is a thriving seaport standing above one of the largest natural harbours in the world. It was given its name in 1839 by Captain Wickham of the sloop Beagle in honour of the great Charles Darwin who had sailed round the world in the Beagle.

The growth of the colony was very slow, and for many years the primitive Aborigines, sometimes friendly, sometimes treacherous, resented the intrusion of the queer white men. Even as late as 1936 the C.N. described the adventures of Donald Thompson, a student of native races, who was sent by the Australian Government as a peace-maker to the tribes of the Northern Territory. After travelling 400 miles on horseback, 90 miles in native canoes, and living alone for months with the savages, he was able to return to civilisation with the good news that a powerful chief had made a pact, promising to maintain peace with the white men.

Rich Pastures

The chief wealth of the Northern Territory today is its rich pasture lands on which graze many thousands of cattle, horses, and sheep—we were given vivid glimpses of the stockman's life there in that fine film, The Overlanders. Also in the Territory are mineral deposits, but the growth of the Territory into a prosperous country with a much larger population awaits the building of more railways.

We may expect that the new Legislative Council will hasten the development of this wealthy wilderness.

THE ONLY WAY

ON Tuesday this week the British and Foreign Bible Society's new Exhibition called, Is This The Way? opens at Newcastle. It will tour the country for three years.

This Exhibition, with its challenging title, is the Bible Society's answer to the question millions are asking today: What is the way to a better order for Mankind? The Society believes that the way revealed in the Bible is the only one that does not lead to disappointment and disaster.

At the entrance to the Exhibition the Western way of life, with its chief emphasis on material prosperity, is contrasted with the Eastern way with its contempt for the ceaseless struggle for material possessions, and Section Two shows men who followed "The Way." Other sections illustrate the world-wide work of the Society, and include film shows, an electric quiz, brain trusts, Christ in Native Art, and a specially-written Pageant.

BSA facts on STRENGTH, SPEEDINESS AND SMARTNESS



STRENGTH Tossing the Caber. The caber, a heavy tree trunk measuring 16 to 20 ft. has been thrown over 40 feet by Scottish athletes.

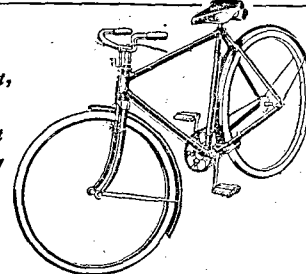
SPEED Homing Pigeons can fly at an average speed of 30 miles per hour. The highest authenticated speed of a homer is 75 m.p.h.!

SMARTNESS The Sword of Honour is awarded at Sandhurst to the best Cadet of the year. Smartness, of course, is one of the winning points!



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THE BRAN TUB

PUSH—AND GO

"Now, boy," said the wealthy motorist, stopping by a wayside petrol station, "get me some petrol, quickly. You'll never get on unless you push. I made my fortune by pushing."

"Sorry, sir," said the boy, "you'll have to start pushing again. We have no petrol left."

School at Sea

"I've seen a school that's in the sea,"

Said Jack one day to Les.

"Absurd," said Les. "How can that be?"

"Quite easy, lad—it was, you see, A school of porpoises."

RODDY



"Excuse me, but this one hasn't any money in it!"

BEDTIME CORNER

Mary's Lamb That Wasn't

"Oh, listen to that poor lamb, I'm sure it's lost in this wood, let's go and rescue it," said Mary.

"We'll get dirty," objected Doris; "and Miss Gibbs said the next time we came to school with muddy shoes and stockings she would give us bad conduct marks."

"She loves animals, so she won't mind," said Mary.

They entered the wood, which was very muddy, and went towards the pitiful bleating. To their astonishment they found it was Johnny Wilson making the noise!

"Don't come near me," he warned. "My sister's got chicken pox, and so I mustn't go near anyone."

"But why were you making that noise?" asked Mary crossly.

"I'm practising making animal noises for my turn at the school concert," he explained.

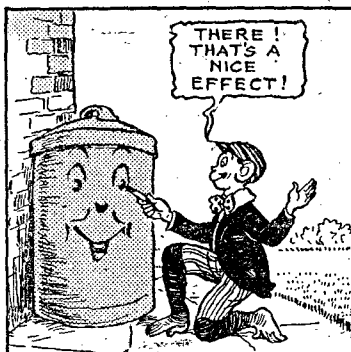
"Now we've got all muddy for nothing!" said Doris resentfully. "Miss Gibbs will never believe our story."

"I would come and explain, only I'm not allowed to go to school," said Johnny unhappily.

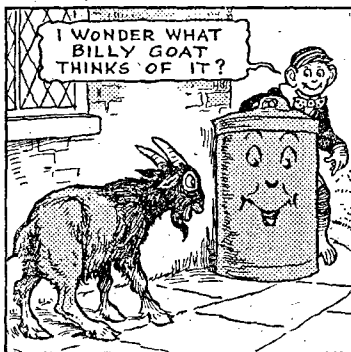
Anxiously the others hurried away. They did not see Johnny following at a distance.

At school Miss Gibbs, the teacher, exclaimed angrily:

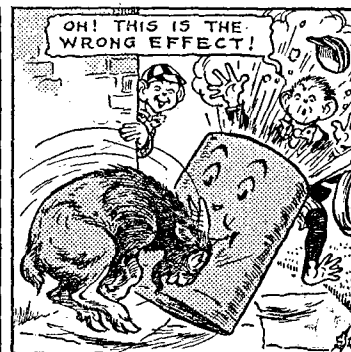
Jacko is the Butt of the Joke



Jacko decided that the dustbin would be brightened by a face.



Then, on Billy's appearance, he stepped back to get Billy's reaction.



He got it—and the contents of the dustbin—in the face.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Treacherous Elms. A sudden crash above the roar of the gale sent Don scurrying to the window. The great elm which stood in the field opposite was down, spread-eagled across the road.

"Elms are dangerous trees," commented Farmer Gray. "Despite their bulk they come down very easily. A gale will sometimes flatten a whole row, and large limbs occasionally fall from what appear to be sound, healthy trees. Elm timber is put to many uses. It withstands water better than most woods, and so is much used in the making of boats. Because of the elm's stately beauty, its treacherous habits are often overlooked."

Short-Sighted

SAMMY SIMPLE says he is so short-sighted that he sleeps with his spectacles on so that he can recognise people in his dreams.

Other Worlds

IN the evening Venus is in the south-west and Mars and Saturn are in the south. Uranus is in the south-west. In the morning Jupiter is in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon at 6.30 am on Wednesday, March 3.

THE MONTH OF MARCH

MARCH was named by the Romans after Mars, the god of war and agriculture.

According to a Roman legend, Mars was the father of Romulus and Remus, twin sons who were set adrift on the River Tiber, and rescued from death by a she-wolf. This animal is said to have tended and nursed the foundlings until a shepherd found them, and took care of them.

When they grew up, Romulus built the great city of Rome. As the Romans really believed that Mars was the father of the founder of their city, it is not surprising that they gave one of the months of the year his honoured name.

Children's Hour

BBC Programmes from Wednesday, March 3, to Tuesday, March 9

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 A Toytown Adventure. 5.30 Paddy and His Cat—a story. N. Ireland, 5.0 I Want to Be an Actor; Can You Beat it? Young Artists. North, 5.0 Your Own Hobbies; The Cave in the Quarry—a talk; Belle Vue Zoo. Scottish, 5.0 Children's Magazine.

THURSDAY, 5.0 The Crocodile Men (End). 5.35 The Beauty of Buildings (3). North, 5.0 The Brydon Family; Songs and Piano. Welsh, 5.30 Smuggler's Cargo—a play.

FRIDAY, 5.0 The Thrush Who Never Listened—a story. 5.15 Ballet Shoes (Part 6). Scottish, 5.0 Derek in France (Part 6).

SATURDAY, 5.0 The Surprising Dragon—a story; The Coloured Coons; How I Learned—Soccer. North, 5.0 Variety. Scottish, 5.0 Children's Hour Jubilee. West, 5.40 Tom Magnus and the Giant—a story.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Charles Lamb—a talk. Scottish, 5.0 St Andrew's Castle.

MONDAY, 5.0 The Fifth Form at St Dominic's (Part 2). 5.30 Songs of the Elfin Pedlar. 5.40 Film Review. Midland, 5.30 Sixteenth Century Dances. Scottish, 5.30 Hut Country Walks.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Black Beauty (10). 5.15 Competition Results. 5.25 Nature Parliament. N. Ireland, 5.0 Adventures Unexpected (Part 6); Honeybunch in Trouble—a story; The Ashleigh Junior Choir. Scottish, 5.0 A Tammy Toot Story. 5.15 Down at the Mains.

The Children's Newspaper, March 6, 1943

PUZZLING

DORIS: Mummie, teacher said that the law of gravity keeps us on the earth.

Mummie: That's right, dear. Doris: But how did we keep on before the law was passed?

What Your Name Means

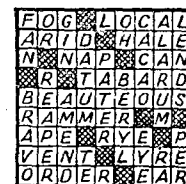
Annabel .. eagle heroine
Anne .. grace
Anthony .. invaluable
Archibald .. holy prince
Arnold .. eagle power
Barbara .. foreigner

LAST WEEK'S

ANSWERS

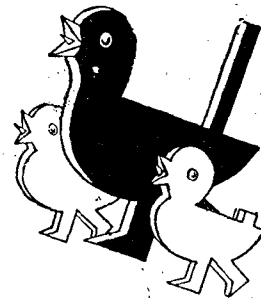
What is the Word?

Brag (garb).



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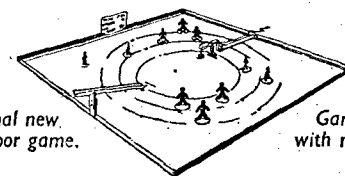


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